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Prevention of armed conflict

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 3 October 2014 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit the following information.

The Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan stated yesterday that his policy on Syria was focused on changing the Syrian regime. In that context, he submitted to Parliament a memorandum that would authorize the Government to take military action inside Syria and make Turkey a base for military aggression against the country, citing the pretexts of counter-terrorism and Turkish national security.

The stated course of action of the Turkish Government is a bare-faced violation of the Charter of the United Nations, which sets forth the principles of respect for national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States. It constitutes an explicit attack on a founder member of the United Nations. The international community and, in particular, the Security Council must take action to curb the adventurism of the Turkish leadership, which poses a threat to regional and international peace and security.

Since the outset of the current crisis in Syria, the Turkish Government has done all that it can to exacerbate the situation and to undermine Syria's exemplary stability and harmony.

In the light of the principles of neighbourly relations between States, and the historic relations between the Turkish and Syrian peoples, Turkey ought to have helped Syria to overcome the crisis. Instead, the Turkish Government has become the main linchpin of the armed terrorist groups, whose extremist religious ideology it shares.

The Turkish leadership has offered all forms of political, military and logistical support to the armed terrorist groups. It has harboured, funded, trained and

armed terrorists from over 83 States, facilitating their passage into Syria. Turkey has thus become a vital base for the terrorists who have struck the country. The Turkish Government bears fundamental responsibility for every drop of blood that the groups have spilled in Syria.

The Turkish Government has not only killed Syrians and destroyed their towns and villages; it has lashed out against the country's development and all that Syrians have achieved with their own sweat and blood. It has dismantled and removed Syrian factories and workshops, acting with the full cooperation of armed terrorist gangs. In one of the most striking examples of its collusion with the gangs, the Turkish leadership has bought Syrian oil that was stolen by Islamic State in the Levant (ISIL) and other terrorist groups.

The Turkish Government continues to fully support armed terrorist groups, including ISIL and the Nusrah Front, in flagrant violation of Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014). It can therefore make no claim to being a partner in combating terrorism. It bears fundamental responsibility for the growth of terrorist activity, and its ties to the terrorist groups have been documented. The charade of the abduction and release of Turkish consular officials in Mosul is the most telling sign of the deep partnership between the Government of the Justice and Development Party and the ISIL gangs.

The Syrian people has been steadfast in the face of killings, and has made great sacrifices. It has the exclusive right to choose its leaders and determine its future, and has expressed its will through the presidential elections. Under no circumstances will it allow the Turkish Government, or any other Government, to intervene in its affairs. More than ever before, the people is resolute in standing up to all plots against its unity and integrity. It will protect its sovereignty and its independent national choice.

By adopting reckless policies and openly attacking Syria, the Turkish leadership has been instrumental in perpetuating the crisis in Syria and the shedding of Syrian blood. It has endangered peace and security throughout the region and the world, and Turkey will not be spared the consequences. The international community and the Security Council must take a genuine stand and adopt a firm, responsible position. They must curb the Turkish Government's destructive approach, and prevail on it to comply with Security Council resolutions and end its unfettered support for the armed terrorist groups. They must insist that Turkey bring an end to its interference in the internal affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 32 and 107, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Haydar Ali **Ahmad**
Counsellor
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